

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. No claims have been amended, new claim 24 has been added, and no claims have been canceled herein.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for use in a computer system, said computer system having a graphical operating system, for switching between a plurality of open application windows, comprising:

monitoring for switching input indicative of a desire to switch from a current open application window to another of the plurality of open application windows;

upon receipt of the switching input, displaying an extracted graphical preview of the content for one of the plurality of open application windows;

monitoring for display input indicative of a desire to make the displayed preview the new current open application window; and

upon receipt of the display input, switching the display from the current open application window to the new current open application window.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying, along with the preview, an icon and a text description associated with the preview.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising, upon receipt of the switching input, displaying an extracted graphical preview of the content for each of the plurality of open application windows.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising displaying, along with the preview for each of the plurality of open application windows, an icon and a text description associated with a corresponding preview.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of open application windows is ranked according to an activation hierarchy, and wherein the displayed preview is the window immediately succeeding the current open application window in the activation hierarchy.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
monitoring, after display of the preview, for additional input indicative of a desire to view a preview of the next open application window in the activation hierarchy; and
upon receipt of the additional input, displaying an extracted graphical preview of the content for the next open application window in the activation hierarchy.

7. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method as recited in claim 1.

8. (Original) A computer system having a processor, memory, display, and an operating environment, the computer system operable to execute the method recited in claim 1.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for use in a computer system, said computer system having a graphical operating system, for switching between a plurality of open windows that are ranked according to an activation hierarchy comprising:

monitoring for a switching activation signal;
upon receipt of the switching activation signal, displaying an extracted graphical preview of the content of the next open window in the activation hierarchy;
monitoring for a display command to activate and display the window corresponding to the displayed preview; and
upon receipt of the display command, activating the open window corresponding to the displayed preview.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying, along with the preview, an icon and a text description associated with the preview.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising, upon receipt of the switching activation signal, displaying an extracted graphical preview of the content for each of the plurality of open application windows.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
monitoring for a next preview signal; and
upon receipt of the next preview signal, displaying an extracted graphical preview of the content of the window immediately succeeding the window corresponding to the currently displayed preview in the activation hierarchy.

13. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method as recited in claim 9.

14. (Original) A computer system having a processor, memory, display, and an operating environment, the computer system operable to execute the method recited in claim 9.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
upon receipt of the switching input, concurrently displaying description information for each of the plurality of open application windows.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the switching input is independent of any open application.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the switching input comprises a keyboard input.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
upon receipt of the switching activation signal, concurrently displaying description information for each of the plurality of open application windows.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the switching activation signal is independent of any open application.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the switching activation signal comprises a keyboard input.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the extracted graphical preview represents a screen shot of the content currently within the one of the plurality of open application windows.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the extracted graphical preview represents a screen shot of the content currently within the next open window in the activation hierarchy.

23. (Previously Presented) A method for use in a computer system, said computer system having a graphical operating system, for switching between a plurality of open application windows, comprising:

monitoring for switching input indicative of a desire to switch from a current open application window to another of the plurality of open application windows;

upon receipt of the switching input, displaying an extracted graphical preview of the content for one of the plurality of open application windows, wherein the extracted graphical preview is displayed adjacent a button in a task bar, the button corresponding with the one of the plurality of open application windows;

monitoring for display input indicative of a desire to make the displayed preview the new current open application window; and

upon receipt of the display input, switching the display from the current open application window to the new current open application window.

24. (New) A method for use in a computer system, said computer system having a graphical operating system, for switching between a plurality of open application windows, comprising:

monitoring for switching input indicative of a desire to switch from a current open application window to another of the plurality of open application windows;

upon receipt of the switching input, displaying an extracted graphical preview comprising a live running view of actual content currently within one of the plurality of open application windows;

monitoring for display input indicative of a desire to make the displayed preview the new current open application window; and

upon receipt of the display input, switching the display from the current open application window to the new current open application window.